# Program of the

# Rural Life Conference

In Connection with the Regular Summer Session

Middlebury College Middlebury, Vermont July 7-13, 1913

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# ANNOUNCEMENT.

This bulletin is a supplement of the bulletin of the regular Summer Session, its purpose being to call attention to the program of a Rural Life Conference which will be held in connection with the regular Summer Session of the College. The Conference has been arranged at the invitation of the Inter-Church Federation of Vermont in order to afford country clergymen and other rural social workers an opportunity to become familiar with the social and economic phases of the increasingly important country life movement.

The Rural Life Conference should appeal to clergymen, teachers, librarians, and town officers, to the Grange, to the Y. M. C. A., the village improvement societies and to others who are interested in the civic and social uplift of the community.

The following organizations and officers will co-operate with the College at the Conference by furnishing speakers to represent their respective interests:

The Inter-Church Federation of Vermont; The United States Department of Agriculture; The State Board of Health; The Board of Library Commissioners; The State Board of Education; The State Commissioner of Agriculture; The County Work of the Young Men's Christian Association; The State Industrial School and The State Grange.

The public is cordially invited to any of the sessions of the Conference and to the evening lectures. Ministers will find it to their advantage if they can arrange to attend the Summer Session the week previous to the opening of the Conference.

## CALENDAR.

The Summer Session proper opens July 1st and continues until August 8th. A complete bulletin describing the courses may be obtained by writing to the Director.

THE RURAL LIFE CONFERENCE opens Monday evening, July 7th, and continues until Sunday, July 13th.

#### REGISTRATION.

Persons who expect to attend the sessions of the Rural Life Conference are expected to register at the office of the Director of the Summer Session soon after their arrival. There is no tuition fee but a registration fee of One Dollar will be charged. Upon payment of the fee a card will be issued to the student which will admit him to all the exercises of the Conference and will entitle him, after attendance upon the sessions of the Conference, to a certificate of membership in this first Rural Life Conference in Vermont. Regularly enrolled students of the Summer Session may attend the Conference without charge. The office of the Director is in the Pedagogical suite on the first floor of the Chapel.

# LEADERSHIP OF THE CONFERENCE.

The sessions of the Conference and the conduct of round table meetings, excursions, and details of the program will be under the direction of Prof. Robert J. Sprague, Ph. D., head of the Division of Humanities, and Professor of Economics and Sociology, Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass. Professor Sprague is a graduate of Boston University, where his graduate studies were carried on and at Harvard University. In 1898 and in 1903 he studied economic and social conditions in Continental Europe, and was Carnegie research student in economics in this country in 1906. Professor Sprague's experience as an educator has been confined closely to his chosen field of study; he was Professor of Economics and Sociology at Knox College, Illinois, 1902-'06, at the University of Maine, 1906-'11, and has held a similar position at the Massachusetts Agricultural College since 1911. As a writer and lecturer Professor Sprague has made important contributions to the solution of economic and sociological problems. During the conference he will give a course of lectures on the more important phases of Rural Sociology.

# PROGRAM

Monday, July 7th, 8:00 p. m., College Chapel.

Prof. Robert J. Sprague, Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass.

"Importance of the Rural Problem."

TUESDAY, JULY 8TH, 8:00 A. M.

Supt. J. N. Barss, State Industrial School, Vergennes. "Rural Degeneracy."

Prof. R. J. Sprague, Massachusetts Agricultural College. "Corrective Measures in Rural Communities."

Hon. Elbert S. Brigham, State Commissioner of Agriculture, St. Albans.

"The Marketing of Farm Products."

Tuesday Afternoon, 2:00 o'clock.

Visit to Government Morgan Horse Farm at Weybridge.

Tuesday Evening, 8:00 o'clock, College Chapel.

Miss Alice Davies, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

"The Importance of Good Roads to Rural Communities."

(Illustrated.)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9TH, 8:00 A. M.

President John M. Thomas, Chairman State Board of Education.

"Rural School Improvement."

Prof. Frank E. Howard, Ph. D., Instructor in Elementary Education, Middlebury College Summer Session.

"New Activities in Rural Education."

Miss Rebecca Wright, Secretary State Library Board. "Rural Libraries."

Prof. R. J. Sprague, Massachusetts Agricultural College. "The Beautification of Rural Vermont."

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Round Table discussion, 6:30 o'clock. Musical Recital by Miss Hayden, 8:00 o'clock.

THURSDAY, JULY 10TH, 8:00 A. M.

Prof. R. J. Sprague, Massachusetts Agricultural College. "The Problem of the Rural Church."

Rev. A. P. Pratt, Ph. D., Secretary Inter-Church Federation of Vermont, Bellows Falls.

"The Church and the Boy."

Rev. Charles E. Hesselgrave, Ph. D., Instructor in Biblical Literature, Middlebury College Summer Session.

"A Gospel for the Rural Church."

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Visit to State Industrial School at Vergennes.

THURSDAY EVENING, 8:00 O'CLOCK, COLLEGE CHAPEL.

Dr. Charles F. Dalton, Secretary State Board of Health, Burlington.

"Rural Hygiene." (Illustrated by moving pictures.)

FRIDAY, JULY 11TH, 8:00 A. M.

Rev. W. Parkyn Jackson, Head of the Stranahan Memorial Club, St. Albans.

"Leadership of the Life of Youth."

Byron N. Clark, State Secretary Young Men's Christian Association, Burlington.

"The County Work of the Y. M. C. A."

Prof. R. J. Sprague, Massachusetts Agricultural College. "The Neighborhood House."

FRIDAY EVENING.

Banquet to Conference Members, Battell Cottage, 7 o'clock.

SATURDAY, JULY 12TH, 8:00 A. M.

Lyman A. Morhous, Secretary Addison County Y. M. C. A., Middlebury.

"Play and Athletics for Rural Vermont."

Willis N. Cady, Master Vermont State Grange, Middlebury. "The Work of the Grange."

Prof. R. J. Sprague, Massachusetts Agricultural College. "Rural Social Surveys."

Sunday, July 13th, 10:45 a. m. (Services in the local churches.)

Rev. A. A. Lancaster, Congregational.

Rev., R. B. Esten, D. D., Baptist.

Rev. D. H. Corkran, Ph. D., Methodist.

Rev. J. E. Bold, Episcopal.

# GENERAL PLAN OF THE CONFERENCE.

The Conference will open Monday evening, July 7, with an address by the leader of the Conference, Professor Robert J. Sprague, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College Regular sessions of the Conference will be held each forenoon during the week, followed by appropriate services in the local churches on Sunday. Opportunity will be given at the close of each address for an open discussion of questions and problems that arise.

The afternoons will be free, but arrangements will be made to visit nearby places that afford objective demonstration of principles that are emphasized at the sessions of the Conference. Also it is expected that persons in attendance will hold round table conferences in the afternoons to meet with their fellows for pleasant and profitable discussions of questions that pertain to community interest.

Two Round Table Conferences have been arranged in the early evening in order that questions raised during the sessions may receive adequate treatment. In every case it is hoped that

persons in attendance will realize that the Conference is primarily for their own good and can be successful only to the extent to which they make it their own affair.

Unless otherwise stated the sessions of the Conferences will be held in the Hemicycle, Warner Science Hall. It is expected that addresses will not be longer than forty-five minutes.

#### SUMMER SESSION COURSES.

Several courses of the Summer Session that may have an appeal to patrons of the Rural Life Conference will be open to visitors during the week of the Conference. It is expected that the sessions of the Conference will close at eleven o'clock each morning, in time to allow students to attend a course given at that hour by Rev. Charles E. Hesselgrave, Ph. D., of Chatham, New Jersey. The course is entitled "The Making of the New Testament." Dr. Hesselgrave's afternoon course in Beginning Hebrew will be open to visitors.

Other courses that are scheduled so as not to conflict with the sessions of the Conference are Nature Study, Practical Physiography, Principles of Style, Public Speaking, Greek Drama, and Ancient History. During the week visitors may attend any of these courses. Everybody is invited to observe the work in Home Economics, Metal Craft, and Drawing which is carried on mainly in the afternoons.

Opportunity is taken to announce that Miss Minnie Hayden, of Steinert Hall, Boston, has been added to the instructing force of the Summer Session. Miss Hayden will conduct chorus classes and offer private instruction in vocal training.

#### EXHIBITS AND DEMONSTRATIONS.

Preparations are being made for an exhibit of materials that relate especially to rural life. The State Board of Library Commissioners will exhibit cases containing rural and farmer's libraries.

There will be a collection of books, magazines, bulletins and periodicals which will be the most complete exhibition of rural life literature in the State.

One afternoon will be spent at the Government Morgan Horse Farm to observe methods of administration and farm management. Arrangements have been made to visit the State Industrial School at Vergennes to observe how Vermont cares for its boys and girls in a way that is attracting the attention of students of sociology throughout the country. Visits will be paid to nearby farms where principles of farm sanitation, management, and beautification of homesteads may be studied by observation.

# ACCOMMODATIONS.

Rooms in the college dormitories may be had at one dollar for the week. Students should bring sheets, pillow-cases and towels. Board may be obtained at the college dining hall at four dollars. Persons who wish to get board and rooms at the college should apply to the Director at once. Board and rooms may be obtained in private families in the village; also at the hotels at reasonable rates. The Director will be glad to correspond with persons who wish accommodations outside the college.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

All persons interested in the Summer Session or in the Rural Life Conference are invited to write for further particulars. Address correspondence to

> PROF. RAYMOND McFARLAND, Director of the Summer Session, Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt.